

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraphs [0025] and [0026] with the following paragraphs rewritten in amendment format:

[0025] Referring to Figures 1 and 2, the blade mounting portion 24 includes a first blade mounting section 28, best illustrated in Figure 2, disposed on the right side face 18 of the handle 12. The first blade mounting section 28 includes a key 30 and a screw boss 32. As best shown in Figure 2, the blade 14 includes a recessed end slot 34 in an end of the blade 14 which receives the key 30 therein. As clearly shown in Figure 2, positive engagement of the blade 14 with the key 30 secures the blade to the handle in both lengthwise and widthwise directions of the blade 14. The blade 14 also includes an aperture 36 for receiving a threaded screw 38 which is threaded into the screw boss 32 for securing the blade 14 to the handle 12 in a vertical cut orientation. Positive engagement of the blade 14 with the threaded screw 38 secures the blade 14 to the handle 12 in each of a lengthwise direction of the blade 14 and a depthwise direction of the blade 14, as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

[0026] The blade mounting portion 24 of the handle 12 also includes a second blade mounting section 40 provided on the bottom face 20 of the handle 12, as best shown in Figure 3. The second blade mounting section 40 includes a key 42 adapted to be received by the recessed end slot 34 of the blade 14. Positive engagement of the blade 14 with the key 42 secures the blade to the handle in both lengthwise and widthwise directions of the blade 14, shown in Figure 3. A screw boss 44 on the bottom face 20 receives a threaded fastener 46 therein which extends through the aperture 36 in the blade 14 for securely mounting the blade 14 to the handle

12 in the horizontal or cross cut orientation. Positive engagement of the blade 14 with the threaded fastener 46 secures the blade 14 to the handle 12 in each of a lengthwise direction of the blade 14 and a depthwise direction of the blade 14, as shown in Figure 3.